

REMARKS

A. Status of the Claims

Claim 1 is amended and claims 22-30 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Therefore, no new matter is introduced with this amendment.

B. Specification

The Specification has been amended to include sequence identification numbers which were omitted at the time of filing.

Applicants request entry of this amendment in adherence with 37 C.F.R. §§1.821 to 1.825. This amendment is accompanied by a floppy disk containing the sequences, SEQ ID NOS:1-5, in computer readable form, and a paper copy of the sequence information which has been printed from the floppy disk.

The undersigned hereby states that the information contained in the computer readable disk was prepared through the use of the software program "PatentIn" and is identical to that of the paper copy. This amendment contains no new matter.

C. Oath/Declaration

The Examiner has objected to the Oath/Declaration on the basis that the Preliminary Amendment received November 21, 2003 incorporates by reference U.S. Application Serial No. 09/513,395, which is allegedly different than the application referenced as attorney docket number 020444-000300US.

Applicants representative, Kenneth Jenkins, interviewed the Examiner on December 20, 2005. During the interview, the Examiner agreed that the application referenced as attorney docket number 020444-000300US is, in fact, U.S. Application Serial No. 09/513,395. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his time and courtesy during the interview.

D. Claim Objection

The Examiner has objected to claim 22 for missing the conjunction "and". Applicants have amended claim 22 to include "and". Applicants thank the Examiner for pointing out this typographical error.

E. Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 22 stands rejected as allegedly indefinite for recitation of the phrase "separation coordinates." Applicants respectfully disagree.

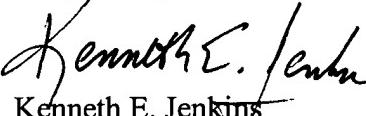
On page 17, lines 28-29, the specification explicitly defines "separation coordinates" as "approximate values of the biophysical parameters used to separate the protein prior to sequencing." In light of this explicit definition, Applicants respectfully submit that the meaning of "separation coordinates" would be immediately apparent to one skilled in the art. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 858-350-6100.

Respectfully submitted,


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